

1 May 2006

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges Army Degree Program
(SOCAD)

1. PURPOSE. To provide information on the US Army Medical Department Center and School (AMEDDC&S) Quality Assurance Office (QAO) partnership with the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) teaching proponents, the Army Education Center, and Department of the Army (DA) to market Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges Army Degree (SOCAD) opportunities for AMEDD Soldiers.

2. FACTS.

a. The AMEDDC&S does not have authority to grant degrees for Military Occupational Specialties (MOSs)/Additional Skill Identifiers (ASIs); many of the programs are not affiliated with universities. The AMEDDC&S' long term goal is for all MOSs and ASIs to have potential for obtaining a degree.

b. The AMEDDC&S QAO is the US Army Medical Command's liaison for SOCAD coordination with DA, AMEDD teaching proponents, and the Army Education Center. The SOCAD program provides an excellent opportunity for Soldiers to obtain degrees.

c. The DA works with multiple colleges and universities to develop AMEDD MOS and ASI Army degree plans for Soldiers and their families. The AMEDDC&S subject matter experts provide input during the degree development process and a quality assurance review of the degrees.

d. Army Education Center counselors assist Soldiers with program selection, advise them about tuition assistance, degree planning, SOCAD colleges, and the process for earning SOCAD degrees. All MOS and ASI training proponents should make their students aware of the program and refer them to Army Education Centers and/or the SOCAD web site: <http://www.soc.aascu.org>.

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